



Treynor Elementary School



Tim Larsen, the Treynor Elementary School Principal, spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on November 22. He brought along his two youngest children and talked about his family. His wife works in labor and delivery. One of his sons was in

College last year and really learned a lot. The college offers a \$12,000 per year scholarship to those attending, but that doesn't cover much with tuition at \$43,000 per year.

Mr. Larsen's job is to supervise 370 children and 44 employees. He also has a long list of other assignments. They include oversight of 6-8 homeschooled children.

There are three sections in every grade in the Elementary School. The 4th and 5th grades have over 70 children. Kindergarten and 1st grade have 56-58. 90-95% of the children go to a pre-school.

The school still teaches handwriting. They emphasize math and reading. A new Iowa law says that by 2017, 3rd graders have to be proficient or repeat 3rd grade.

In the Elementary they have 5 I-Pads per classroom. They would like to double that number. They also have two computer labs.

Mr. Larsen also talked about a variety of initiatives the school has. One is "Capturing Kids Hearts". Part of

this involves shaking hands of children when they get off the bus in the morning.

For safety the school has all buildings locked during the day. The teachers also have bullying prevention training.

Meeting Minutes

Dee Guttau opened the meeting and Ken Graham gave the opening prayer. Bill Vorthmann and Gary Guttau provided jokes.

Mick Guttau celebrated his birthday. John Klein celebrated his 39th wedding anniversary. He met his wife at Iowa State University. They both lived in the dorms there, she in Birch Hall and he in Oak Hall. Suffice it to say they met after a water fight that turned into a muddy mess.

Dee Guttau talked once more about the Optimist Foundation goal for Iowa Optimists to donate a dime a day to fight childhood cancer. Next week is the last week to contribute through the club.

Mick Guttau contributed to the Youth Fund because his picture was in the newspaper. Gary Guttau contributed because his name was mentioned on the radio.

The Griswold Optimist Club is celebrating their 30th anniversary on December 8. The next zone meeting is Monday, November 24 in Oakland.

Gary Funkhouser reported that the Freshmen and Sophomores got 2nd place of the 14 teams participating in the Brain Bowl. The older Treynor youth didn't do as well.

Mick Guttau won the 50/50 drawing. Bob Mantell won the attendance drawing, but did not collect. There were 16 members and 3 guest at the meeting.

Calendar

- Nov 24, Mon – Zone meeting in Oakland, 6:00 p.m.
- Nov 25, Tues – Can kennel sorting after school, 3:30 p.m.
- Nov 29, Sat – Board Meeting after club meeting

Birthdays

- Nov 8 - Mick Guttau
- Nov 18 – Dianne Willenborg

Anniversaries

- Nov 2 - Kirk & Lynell Vorthmann
- Nov 23 – John & Carol Klein
- Nov 25 – Ward & Suzanne Chambers

Speakers

- Nov 29 – Rita Laughlin

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CLUB BULLETIN COPYING COURTESY OF TS BANK of TREYNOR

Two 90-year-old women, Bertha and Betty, had been friends all of their lives. When it was clear that Bertha was dying, Betty visited her every day. One day Betty said, 'Bertha, we both loved playing softball all our lives, and we played all through high school. Please do me one favor: when you get to heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's women's softball there.'

Bertha looked up at Betty from her deathbed and said, 'Betty, you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favor for you.'

Shortly after that, Bertha passed on. A few nights later, Betty was awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to her, 'Betty, Betty.'

'Who is it', asked Betty, sitting up suddenly. 'Who is it?'

'Betty -- it's me, Bertha.'

'You're not Bertha. Bertha just died.'

'I'm telling you, it's me, Bertha,' insisted the voice.

'Bertha! Where are you?'

'In heaven,' replied Bertha. 'I have some really good news and a little bad news.'

'Tell me the good news first,' said Betty.

'The good news,' Bertha said, 'is that there's women's softball in heaven. Better yet, all of our old buddies who died before me are here, too. Even better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always Springtime and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play softball all we want, and we never get tired.'

'That's fantastic,' said Betty. 'It's beyond my wildest dreams! So what's the bad news?'

'You're pitching Tuesday.'